

TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

JAMES HUNTER

BACHELOR OF MEDICINE AND MASTER IN SURGERY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

*From the RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD MALCOLM OF POLTALLOCH, C.B.,
Convener of the County of Argyll; formerly Chairman of the District
Lunacy Board of Argyll and Bute.*

POLTALLOCH,
LOCHGILPHEAD, January 10, 1899.

I HAVE known DR. JAMES HUNTER since he was a lad, and have the highest opinion of him professionally, morally, and socially.

He has frequently attended myself and family, and has always shown himself careful, skilful, and patient.

His manner is pleasant and bright, but at the same time he keeps command of his patient.

I venture to think that he is eminently fitted for the post of Assistant Inspector; but at the same time greatly regret that he will be leaving the neighbourhood where he is so well known and highly respected.

(Signed) MALCOLM OF POLTALLOCH.



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From DONALD N. NICOL, ESQ., OF ARDMARNOCH, M.P. *for Argyllshire.*

LONDON, *January 23, 1899.*

MY DEAR DR. HUNTER,

I gladly add my testimony to your abilities and qualifications for the appointment of a Deputy Commissioner in Lunacy for Scotland.

I have known you now for many years, and have watched your career with much interest.

You have established a large practice, and your skill, both as surgeon and physician, is appreciated by all classes. You have a wide knowledge of general practice, and have been much in contact with Lunacy cases. Your brother-in-law, Dr. Cameron, being head of our large local Asylum at Lochgilphead, has given you many opportunities of studying, in the daily routine of his work, the disease of Lunacy in its various phases.

I have every confidence that if you are appointed you will, in a very short time, be looked upon as a very valuable official of the General Lunacy Board. Wishing you every success,

Believe me,

Yours very truly,

DONALD N. NICOL.

From JOHN CAMPBELL, ESQ., OF KILBERRY, J.P., Chairman of South Knapdale Parish Council; formerly Chairman of the Argyll District Lunacy Board.

KILBERRY,
ARGYLLSHIRE, January 10, 1899.

DEAR HUNTER,

I hear that you intend to apply for the Deputy Commissionership in Lunacy, and I hope that you will be successful; although I am well aware that your departure from Lochgilphead will be a great loss to this part of the county.

You ought to be well fitted for the office referred to, as you have had long experience of work among lunatics, both in the Asylum and as boarded out patients.

I have known you, I may say, since you were a child, and I know that your character is in every way fitted for a position of trust and responsibility, and I believe that you are one of the most hard-working of Highland doctors, and that is not a small thing to say of anyone.

Of course, you have had special opportunities of studying the nature of lunatics, as Dr. Cameron, of the Argyll and Bute Asylum, is your brother-in-law, and you have frequently had to help him in his work.

I cannot understand how anyone could have had a better chance of qualifying himself for the position which you seek to obtain.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

J. CAMPBELL OF KILBERRY.

*From DUNCAN CAMPBELL, ESQ., OF INVERNEILL AND ROSS, ARGYLLSHIRE,
J.P., Colonel Commanding the 5th V.B. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders;
formerly Chairman of the District Lunacy Board of Argyll
and Bute.*

INVERNEILL, 16th January, 1899.

UNDERSTANDING that DR. J. HUNTER is an applicant for the appointment of Deputy Commissioner in Lunacy for Scotland, I have the greatest pleasure in recommending him for the same.

Having known him all his life, I have watched his career with interest; I have always appreciated his sterling qualities, and the strictly honourable feeling which has animated him.

On the death of his father he took up the practice which had been in the family for two generations, and conducted it with such skill that he materially increased it.

Having had several cases of severe illness in my family, Dr. Hunter attended them with skill and success, and whenever it was thought advisable to secure a specialist's opinion, such opinion has invariably approved of the treatment adopted.

His residence being situated near the County Lunatic Asylum, he has had every opportunity of becoming acquainted with the discipline and management of patients, and being of robust health and strong constitution, and also having, since he left his college, kept himself *au fait* with the more modern discoveries of medical science, I therefore consider him eminently fitted to carry on the duties of a Deputy Commissioner.

He spares himself no trouble, and his manner is such as to endear him to his patients.

Much as I shall regret losing his services as a family medical attendant, the gain will be to the country at large.

(Signed) D. CAMPBELL OF INVERNEILL, J.P.

From R. C. GRAHAM CAMPBELL, ESQ., OF SHIRVAN, J.P., Chairman of the District Lunacy Board of Argyll and Bute; Vice-Chairman of the Mid-Argyll District Council; General Secretary of the Argyllshire Nursing Association.

SHIRVAN,

LOCHGILPHEAD, 19th January, 1899.

I HAVE known DR. HUNTER all my life, and shall be most happy if anything I can write will be of any assistance to him in obtaining the post of Deputy Commissioner in Lunacy, which I understand may shortly be vacant.

He is an excellent doctor, clever and painstaking, and worthy to be entrusted with such a post of responsibility, as he is a man of high moral character, as well as being also kindly, courteous, and tactful.

I shall greatly regret it, should circumstances call him from our neighbourhood, where he and his family have lived so long, and have always been so greatly liked and respected.

(Signed) R. GRAHAM CAMPBELL OF SHIRVAN.

From ALEXANDER STUART, JUN., ESQ., General Superintendent of Poor, Local Government Board, Scotland.

NEW CLUB,
EDINBURGH, January 17, 1899.

MY DEAR HUNTER,

I wish you all success in your application for the Deputy Commissionership in Lunacy.

You are eminently fitted for the position, for many reasons.

Your large and varied experience in the Asylum at Lochgilphead, where you have frequently been left in charge during the temporary absence of your brother-in-law, Dr. Cameron, and the many hints you have received from him, should be of great help to you in determining which cases you would advise to be boarded out with safety.

Also your large experience as Medical Officer for the Parishes of Glassary and North Knapdale, as well as the experience gained during seven years under your late father when he was Medical Officer for the Parishes of North and South Knapdale, should prove of great value.

I may mention that the pauper lunacy of these parishes has been returned to me as General Superintendent of Poor at the large number of forty-seven.

And last, but not least, your physical advantages should stand you in good stead while travelling over the extended district which I sincerely trust you may be able shortly to call yours.

If you consider it worth while, pray make any use of this letter you may deem advisable.

Yours sincerely,

ALEX. STUART, JUN.

From the REV. A. J. ROBERTSON, Minister of the Parish of Lochgilphead.

LOCHGILPHEAD, January 24, 1899.

I HAVE much pleasure in strongly recommending DR. JAMES HUNTER for the appointment of Deputy Commissioner in Lunacy.

After a distinguished career at the University of Edinburgh, where he graduated with honourable distinction in nearly all his classes, Dr. Hunter began practice here, being appointed Medical Officer for the Parishes of Glassary and North Knapdale. His excellent abilities, acknowledged skill, and personal charm of manner quickly brought him to the front, and very soon gained for him such universal esteem, that by the county families he is looked upon as a valued friend and as their medical adviser in whom they have fullest confidence, while he is by the poor loved and implicitly trusted.

In this wide sphere Dr. Hunter has had a large experience in the treatment of boarded out patients, while his connection with Dr. Cameron, Medical Superintendent of the Argyll and Bute Asylum here, has given him exceptional opportunities, of which he fully avails himself, of studying the treatment of the insane and making himself thoroughly acquainted with the administration of such institutions.

Having regard to Dr. Hunter's high attainments and wide experience, I am of opinion that he is eminently qualified for the position of Deputy Commissioner. Dr. Hunter is a man of sterling integrity of character and of high intellectual powers, of quick perception, and with a strong sense of duty. He is free from every whim and crotchet, and would prove not only a most capable and successful administrator, but also a most agreeable colleague.

A. J. ROBERTSON.

From SIR THOMAS GRAINGER STEWART, Professor of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh; Physician in Ordinary to the Queen in Scotland; President of the British Medical Association.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH,
January 23, 1899.

I HAVE much pleasure in certifying that DR. HUNTER of Lochgilphead has been well known to me since his student days, and that I entertain a high respect for his ability and professional attainments. He informs me that he is likely to be a candidate for the Deputy Commissionership in Lunacy for Scotland if a vacancy should occur; and I am confident that, if he were appointed, he would prove most efficient in the discharge of duty, his work at Lochgilphead during the past fifteen years having made him very familiar alike with general practice and the medical management of the poor, and the duties of the Asylum Physician Superintendent.

T. GRAINGER STEWART.

From J. HALLIDAY CROOM, ESQ., M.D.(Edin.), Physician to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh; Physician to the Royal Maternity Hospital, Edinburgh, etc.

25 CHARLOTTE SQUARE,
EDINBURGH, 16th January, 1899.

I HAVE very special pleasure in expressing my strong conviction that DR. JAMES HUNTER is particularly well fitted for the post of Deputy Commissioner in Lunacy.

Dr. Hunter has enjoyed a large and varied practice.

He is a level-headed man, with a judicial mind.

His disposition is most kindly, and he would in every respect be an able and agreeable colleague.

I am very confident that few, if any, better candidates could be found for such a post; and I should think, in guarding the interests of the insane poor, and in the management of a great department, Dr. Hunter would prove an exceptionally efficient officer.

(Signed) J. HALLIDAY CROOM.

*From JOHN CAMERON, Esq., M.D. (Edin.), Medical Superintendent of the Argyll
and Bute Asylum.*

ARGYLL AND BUTE DISTRICT ASYLUM,
LOCHGILPHEAD, 17th January, 1899.

DR. JAMES HUNTER has been intimately known to me for many years, and I can confidently bear testimony as to his high professional qualifications.

Ever since his graduation, Dr. Hunter has taken a deep interest in the study of Mental Diseases, and has regularly taken advantage of the facilities afforded by the Argyll District Asylum for extending his knowledge of the treatment of the insane.

Dr. Hunter has also acquired considerable experience in both the treatment and management of the insane in private houses, as he has been constantly engaged in the supervision of boarded out patients.

Dr. Hunter would, in my opinion, discharge the duties of a Deputy Commissioner in Lunacy with zeal, energy, and efficiency.

(Signed) J. CAMERON, M.D. (EDIN.),
Medical Superintendent.

From GEORGE THOS. BEATSON, Esq., B.A. (Cantab.), M.D. (Edin.), formerly Examiner in Surgery to the University of Edinburgh; Surgeon to the Glasgow Cancer Hospital; Senior Assistant Surgeon to the Glasgow Western Infirmary.

7 WOODSIDE CRESCENT,
GLASGOW, January 19, 1899.

I UNDERSTAND from DR. J. HUNTER that he intends making application for a Deputy Commissionership in Lunacy that is likely to be shortly vacant, and it is with great pleasure that I write to strongly recommend him as in every way most suitable for the post.

From a knowledge of the work that such an appointment entails, I consider that Dr. Hunter is specially well qualified for it.

Engaged as he has been for several years in general practice, he has gained tact, experience, and self-reliance, while his excellent personal qualities and high professional ability have secured for him in the district, where he has worked so long and so successfully, the reputation of a most able and trustworthy practitioner.

My own personal knowledge of Dr. Hunter, extending now over many years, enables me to speak very strongly as to his professional skill, and to the thorough, conscientious, and zealous manner in which all his work is carried out.

It is on these grounds that I believe he would make a most excellent public official, and I feel certain that it can scarcely be possible for anyone to be better qualified than he is, personally and professionally, for the post he now seeks.

GEORGE THOS. BEATSON.

*From THOMAS ANNANDALE, ESQ., F.R.C.S.E., Professor of Clinical Surgery
in the University of Edinburgh; Surgeon to the Edinburgh Royal
Infirmary, etc.*

34 CHARLOTTE SQUARE,
EDINBURGH, *January 11, 1899.*

DR. JAMES HUNTER'S excellent abilities and large and varied experience of the different departments of medicine are well known to me, and I testify with much confidence to his thorough fitness to perform important duties connected with the practice and administration of his profession.

(Signed) THOMAS ANNANDALE.

From W. J. FLEMING, Esq., M.D., formerly Surgeon to the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, and Examiner in Surgery in Glasgow University.

3 WOODSIDE TERRACE,
GLASGOW, January 10, 1899.

HAVING known DR. JAMES HUNTER since he attended my class in 1880, in which session he took the first prize, I am able confidently to speak of his great ability and high professional attainments.

Since then he has carried on a large general practice, and has acquired the entire confidence of all classes of the community.

He informs me that he is a candidate for the position of Deputy Commissioner in Lunacy; I consider that he is particularly well qualified for such a post, from his extensive practical acquaintance with disease in all classes, and from his intimate association during many years with an Institution which takes high rank among asylums for the insane.

(Signed) WM. JAS. FLEMING.

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